Inventor(s): Del Soldato

Attorney Docket No.: 026220-00014

## I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 to 10. (Canceled)

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) A compound or its salt having the following general formula (I):

 $A-B-C-N(O)_2 \qquad (I)$ 

wherein:

 $A = R-T_1$ -, wherein

R is the radical of the drug, as defined hereunder, having the formula R- $T_1$ -Z or R- $T_1$ -OZ in which Z is H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl, selected from the following classes:

anti-inflammatory drugs: acetylsalicylic acid, 5-aminoacetylsalicylic acid, carprofen, diclofenac sodium salt, diflunisal, etodolac, flufenamic acid, flunixin, flurbiprofen, ibuprofen, indomethacin, indoprofen, ketoprofen, ketoprofen, ketorolac, lornoxicam, loxoprofen, meclofenamic acid, mefenamic acid, meloxicam, mesalamine, naproxen, niflumic acid, olsalazine, piroxicam, salsalate, sulindac, suprofen, tenoxicam, tiaprofenic acid, tolfenamic acid, tolmetin and zomepirac;

analgesic drugs: acetaminophen, acetylsalicylsalicylic acid, benoxaprofen and tramadol;

bronchodilators drugs: albuterol, carbuterol, clenbuterol, diphylline, etofylline, fenoterol, metaproterenol, pirbuterol, salmeterol and terbutaline; expectorant drugs: ambroxol, bromexine and guaiacol;

antihistaminic drugs: cetirizine, levocabastine and terfenadine;

ACE-inhibitors: captopril, enalapril, lisinopril and ramipril;

beta blockers: alprenolol, atenolol, bupranolol, labetalol, metipranolol, metoprolol, pindolol, propranolol, timolol;

antithrombotic and vasoactive drugs: argatroban, clopidogrel, dalteparin, dipyridamole, enoxaparin, iloprost, ozagrel, trifusal and benfurodil hemisuccinate:

antidiabetic drugs: nicotinamide;

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antitumoral drugs: anthramycin, daunorubicin, doxorubicin and epirubicin; antiulcer drugs: cimetidine, omeprazole and pantoprazole;

antihyperlipidemic drugs: atorvastatin, fluvastatin, lovastatin, pravastatin sodium salt and simvastatin;

antibiotics drugs: amoxicillin, ampicillin, aztreonam, biapenem, carbenecillin, cefaclor, cefadroxil, cefamandole, cefatrizine, cefoxitin, dicloxacillin, imipenem, meclocycline, methacycline, moxalactam, panipenem, bacampicillin, apicycline, clomocycline and oxytetracycline;

antiviral drugs: acyclovir, famciclovir, ganciclovir, penciclovir, vidarabine and zidovudine;

bone resorption inhibitors: alendronic acid, etidronic acid and pamidronic acid;

antidementia drugs: tacrine;

 $T_1 = (CO)$ , O, S, N or NR<sub>1C</sub> (CO), O, S, or NR<sub>1C</sub>, wherein R<sub>1C</sub> is H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl, or a free valence;

$$B = -T_B - X_2 - T_{BI}$$
 wherein

 $T_B$  and  $T_{Bl}$  are equal or different,  $T_B$  is (CO) when  $T_1$  is (CO), O, S, or  $NR_{1C}$ , and can be selected from (CO), O, S, N or  $NR_{1C}$  wherein  $R_{1C}$  is as above defined,  $T_B$  is O when T1 is (CO), TBI is (CO) or O;

 $X_2$  is a bivalent bridging group such as the corresponding precursor of B, having the formula Z'-T<sub>B</sub>-X<sub>2</sub>-T<sub>BI</sub>-Z" in which Z', Z" are independently H or OH, is selected from the following compounds:

- Aminoacids: L-carnosine (CI), penicillamine (CV), N-acetylepnicillamine (CVI), cysteine (CVII), N-acetyleysteine (CVIII):

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Hydroxyacids: gallic acid (DI), ferulic acid (DII), gentisic acid (DIII), caffeic acid (DV), hydro caffeic acid (DVI), p-coumaric acid (DVII), vanillic acid (DVIII), syringic acid (DXI):

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-aromatic polyalcohols: hydroquinone (EVIII), methoxyhydroquinone (EXI), hydroxyhydroquinone (EXII), conyferyl alcohol (EXXXII), 4-hydroxyphenetyl alcohol (EXXXIII), p-coumaric alcohol (EXXXIV):

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C is the bivalent -T<sub>c</sub>-Y- radical, wherein T<sub>C</sub> = (CO), O, S, N or NR<sub>1C</sub>, R<sub>1C</sub> being as above defined is (CO) when T<sub>BI</sub> is O, T<sub>C</sub> is O when T<sub>BI</sub> is (CO);

Y <u>is</u> has the following meanings:- a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ -alkylenoxy ( $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ )-alkylenoxy group or a cycloalkylene having from 5 to 7 carbon atoms, in the cycloalkylene ring one or more carbon atoms can be substituted by heteroatoms, the ring may have side chains of R' type, R' being as above defined; or

wherein:

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nIX is an integer between 0 and 3;

nIIX is an integer between 1 and 3;

R<sub>TIX</sub>, R<sub>TIX</sub>, R<sub>TIX</sub>, equal to or different from each other are H or a linear or branched C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;

Y<sup>3</sup>-is a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heterocyclic ring containing at least one nitrogen atom, said ring having 5 or 6 atoms;

$$-(CH_2)_{n3}$$
  $= O$ 

wherein n3 is an integer from 0 to 3 and n3' is an integer from 1 to 3;

wherein n3 and n3' have the above mentioned meaning;

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & - & (CH_2-CH-CH_2-O)_{nf} - \\
\hline
 & ONO_2 \\
 & - & - & (CH_2-CH-CH_2-O)_{nf} - \\
\hline
 & ONO_2
\end{array}$$

wherein nf is an integer from 1 to 6;

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
- (CH-CH_2-O)_{nf}-\\
\hline
+ \\
R_{1f}\\
- (CH_2-CH-O)_{nf}-\\
\hline
+ \\
R_{1f}
\end{array}$$

wherein R<sub>1f</sub> = H, CH<sub>3</sub> and nf is an integer from 1 to 6.

## Claim 12. (Canceled)

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) The compound or salt according to claim 11, wherein Y is a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  linear or branched alkylenoxy ( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )-alkylenoxy group.

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Claim 14. (Previously Presented) A drug comprising the compound or salt according to claim 11, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) A method for treating oxidative stress dysfunction, said method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of the compound or salt according to claim 11 to a patient in need thereof.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical formulation containing the compound or salt according to claim 11 as an active component.

Claim 17. (New) The compound or salt according to claim 11, wherein the bivalent bridging group  $X_2$  is ferulic acid (DII).

Claim 18. (New) The compound or salt according to claim 17, wherein Y is a linear or branched ( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )-alkylenoxy group.

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